

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.
<i>Cirrhites</i>	26	10	2	1	0	6	5	16
<i>Chironemus</i> ..	33	13	2	1	0	10	5	20
<i>Threpterus</i> ..	33	13	2	2	0	9	6	20
<i>Latris</i>	35	14	2	2	0	12	4	21
<i>Chilodactylus</i> .	35	14	2	0	0	12	1	21

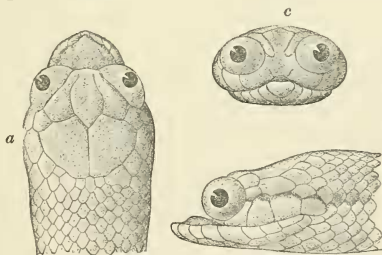
A. Total number of vertebræ. B. Præcaudal vertebræ. C. Ribless anterior vertebræ, bearing only epipleurals. D. Vertebræ with sessile ribs and no transverse processes. E. Vertebræ with sessile ribs and transverse processes. F. Vertebræ with ribs attached to transverse processes. G. Præcaudal vertebræ with the transverse processes united to form a closed hæmal arch, with or without hæmal spine. H. Caudal vertebræ.

LVIII.—*On a case of Simous Malformation in a Snake.*

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

WE have long been familiar with a curious monstrosity in salmon and trout known as the "pug-nose," which consists in the snout being aborted whilst the lower jaw retains its normal development and projects forwards far beyond the skull. I am now able to place on record a perfectly analogous malformation in a Tropical American Opisthoglyph snake—*Stenorhina Degenhardti*.

The specimen, obtained by Mr. Underwood in Costa Rica, is half-grown, measuring 330 millim. It will be seen from the annexed figure that the snout is entirely absent and the eyes strongly protrude in front; the mandible, on the other hand, is quite normal.



a, upper view of head; b, side view; c, front view.

Whether the malformation in this case is congenital or arose from an accident during life we have no means to tell; but, whatever may be its cause, it is a matter for wonder how a snake should be able to maintain itself in that condition. The power to secure its food must have been derived mainly from the posterior grooved fangs, the portion of the maxillary that supports them being, together with the pterygoids, all that remains of the maxillo-palatal arch.